U.S.Department of Commerce
National Technical Information Service
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National Technical Information Service (NTIS)

NTIS' Handle System® and the *NTIS e-Government Virtual Library Initiative*

CENDI Handles® Workshop
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Walter L. Finch
Director Program Planning
National Technical Information Service
Springfield, VA 22161
(703) 605-6407 wfinch@ntis.gov

NTIS Background

- National Technical Information Service (NTIS), Technology Administration, Department of Commerce
- Established 1945 to collect and provide permanent access to nation's largest collection of scientific, technical, engineering and business-related information in order to support the nation's economic growth and job creation
- Approximately 3 million reports
- 200 employees located in Springfield, VA
- Full cost recovery – No appropriations

NTIS Collection

- NTIS receives approximately 45,000 information products annually
- Electronic, web harvesting, & paper input (scanned into tiff/pdf files)
- All reports input are abstracted, indexed (using controlled vocabulary) & cataloged in the NTIS Database

Improving Access to Government Information through the *NTIS e-Government Virtual Library Initiative*

NTIS e-Government Virtual Library Initiative

- Provide single point of entry to search more than 750,000 reports in the NTIS Database (1990-present)
- Access to over 350,000 full-text reports available as downloadable pdf files (1997-present)

NTIS e-Government Virtual Library Initiative (Continued)

- Linking to other agency web sites for free download of reports
- If reports held only by NTIS
  - Free if 20 or fewer pages
  - $8.95 if greater than 20 pages
- Customized CD-ROM on demand
- E-Commerce online ordering & delivery

NTIS e-Government Virtual Library Initiative --

Commitment

- Collect & archive full-text STI reports and provide permanent availability
- Provide permanent links to agency web sites to download full-text reports
- Provide access from NTIS collection to permanent archived copy if agency removes report from web

NTIS Digital Identifier -- Handles System®

- NTIS will work with other agencies that maintain a Handle System
- NTIS will manage a system that assigns, manages, and resolves *persistent* Handles for digital objects in multiple locations

NTIS' Implementation of Handles

- Links to DOE - OSTI's Information Bridge
  - PURL - Persistent URL
  - Assigned PURL as Handle
  - Working with OSTI to ensure permanency
- Will begin working with DTIC to incorporate DTIC's Handle in NTIS Database

NTIS Handles Database

- Contains Handle and Accession Number
- NTIS Bibliographic Database contains metadata

Future Enhancements

In the future, NTIS will provide Database vendors (i.e. CSA, DIALOG , etc.) and other lessees with a Handle for each record in the NTIS Bibliographic Database enabling linking to full-text.

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